IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOLLY YENCHA, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Case No. 2:14-cv-00578-JFC

Plaintiff,

ν.

ZeoBIT LLC, a California limited liability company,

Defendant.

FED. R. CIV. P. 26(f) JOINT REPORT OF THE PARTIES (CLASS ACTION)

1. Identification of Counsel.

A. Plaintiff's Counsel:

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B. Defendant ZeoBIT LLC's Counsel:

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2. General Nature of the Case.

A. Plaintiff's Statement: Plaintiff alleges, individually and on behalf of a nationwide class of similarly situated individuals, that Defendant uniformly defrauded consumers into purchasing its so-called utility software product known as MacKeeper (the "Software"). According to Yencha's Complaint, Defendant represents to consumers—both through online advertisements ands on its website—that the Software will remove harmful problems, protect from all kinds of fraud, and otherwise improve the speed and performance of an individual's personal computer. To demonstrate its purported functionality, Defendant offers consumers a free, fifteen-day trial of the Software that allows consumers to conduct "diagnostic scans" of their computers to determine whether any errors or problems are affecting them. After the scan, the trial version reports the "existence" of errors and offers to "fix" a limited number of them, but informs consumers that purchase of the full, registered version of the Software is necessary to fully repair the computer (typically at a cost of \$39.95).

In reality, the Software is incapable of functioning as advertised and instead, invariably reports the existence and severity of so-called "issues," regardless of a computer's actual condition. As a result, neither the free trial nor full, registered version of the Software performs the functions advertised by Defendant and consumers are induced to purchase Software that has far less utility than promised.

B. Defendant's Statement: Defendant ZeoBIT LLC ("ZeoBIT") denies plaintiff Holly Yencha's allegations, and plans to vigorously defend against her claims. The MacKeeper software performs as advertised, and provides the represented functionality and utility to its users.

Additionally, ZeoBIT does not believe that this action is appropriate for class treatment

because, among other reasons, the claims asserted by Ms. Yencha raise numerous individual issues such as reliance and materiality that cannot be determined on a class-wide basis.

- **3. Date of 26(f) Conference and Identification of Participants.** Courtney Booth, counsel for the Plaintiff, and Matthew Brown, counsel for the Defendant, engaged in the Parties' Rule 26(f) conference on Wednesday, August 13, 2014.
- **4. Date of Rule 16 Initial Scheduling Conference.** The Parties are scheduled to appear before Judge Conti, on Wednesday, September 24, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.
- 5. Anticipated Motions Under Fed. R. Civ. P. 12. ZeoBIT has filed its answer, but reserves the right to file other appropriate motions under Federal Rule Civil Procedure 12, including a motion for judgment on the pleadings, and a motion to dismiss for lack of subject-matter jurisdiction.
- 6. Selected ADR Process. The Parties have conferred and agreed that, at the appropriate time, they would be willing to discuss the potential settlement of this case through private mediation. Plaintiff is prepared to discuss the potential early resolution of the case at this time, and ZeoBIT currently believes the Court should rule on Plaintiff's motion for class certification before the Parties mediate. Given their disagreement about the timing of a potential mediation, the Parties propose that they inform the Court if (and when) they schedule a private mediation to proceed.
- 7. Exchange of Rule 26(a)(1) Disclosures. The Parties have agreed, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1), to exchange their initial disclosures no later than August 27, 2014.
- 8. Subjects on Which Class Certification Discovery May Be Needed. By executing this report, no party shall be deemed to (1) have waived the right to conduct discovery on subjects not listed herein or (2) be required to first seek the permission of the Court to conduct discovery

with regard to subjects not listed herein.

- A. Plaintiff's Statement: Plaintiff anticipates taking discovery on the following non-exhaustive list of topics: (i) the total number of individuals and entities who purchased any and all full versions of the Software; (ii) the number and nature of complaints regarding the Software; (iii) the number and amount of refunds requested and received by the members of the putative class related to their purchases of the Software; (iv) Defendant's representations regarding the purpose, utility and effectiveness of the Software; (v) the source code underlying the Software and its functionality; and (vi) the metrics (and the bases of those metrics) used by the Software to assess and report the health and security status of users' computers.
- **B. Defendant's Statement:** ZeoBIT anticipates that discovery will need to be taken on the following topics related to class certification: (1) the number of U.S.-based purchasers of MacKeeper; (2) the materiality of the alleged misrepresentations; (3) reliance on the alleged misrepresentations; (3) the functionality and utility of MacKeeper; and (4) buyers' use of the MacKeeper software.
- 9. Suggested Case Schedule Pre-Class Certification. The Parties propose the following schedule of discovery and general case deadlines:

EVENT	PROPOSED DEADLINE
Deadline to Exchange Initial Disclosures	August 27, 2014
Deadline to Join Additional Parties	December 19, 2014
Deadline to Amend Pleadings	December 19, 2014
Deadline to Complete Class Certification Fact Discovery	April 15, 2015
Plaintiff's Deadline to Serve Expert Reports Relating to Class Certification	May 13, 2015

Defendant's Deadline to Depose Plaintiff's Expert Relating to Class Certification	June 10, 2015
Defendant's Deadline to Serve Expert Reports Relating to Class Certification	July 1, 2015
Plaintiff's Deadline to Depose Defendant's Expert Witnesses Relating to Class Certification	July 29, 2015
Plaintiff's Deadline to Serve Rebuttal Expert Reports Relating to Class Certification	August 26, 2015
Plaintiff's Deadline to File Motion for Class Certification, Memorandum in Support, and All Supporting Evidence	August 26, 2015
Defendant's Deadline to File Opposition to Motion for Class Certification and All Supporting Evidence (including right to depose Plaintiff's rebuttal experts)	October 7, 2015
Plaintiff's Deadline to File a Reply in Support of Motion for Class Certification	October 28, 2015
Class Certification Hearing	To be Scheduled by Court

- **10. Post-Certification Determination Conference.** The Parties do not wish to establish a schedule for post-Class Certification pretrial matters at this time.
- 11. Limitations on Discovery. The Parties do not believe that any modifications to the limitations on discovery imposed by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure are necessary at this time.
- 12. Special Procedures Dealing with Discovery of Electronically Stored Information.

 Plaintiff recently provided Defendant a proposed ESI protocol which ZeoBIT is considering.
- **13. Proposed Time for Post-Discovery Status Conference**. The Parties propose that the Post-Discovery Scheduling Conference be scheduled following the completion of expert discovery.

- 14. Orders that Should Be Entered Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b) or 26(c). The Parties intend to submit to the Court for its review and approval a proposed protective order governing the production and handling of privileged, confidential, proprietary, and otherwise sensitive discovery materials in this matter.
- **15. Appointment of the Special Master.** The Parties do not anticipate the appointment of a special master.
- **16. Possibility of Settlement**. The Parties have not yet engaged in settlement discussions. To the extent an early settlement is possible, the Parties are willing to participate in a private mediation. *See* No. 6, *supra*.

Respectfully submitted,

HOLLY YENCHA, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Dated: August 27, 2014

By: /s/ William R. Caroselli
One of Plaintiff's Attorneys

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Tel: 312.589.6370 Fax: 312.589.6378 *Pro hac vice admission to be sought.

ZeoBIT LLC,

Dated: August 27, 2014 By: /s/ Matthew D. Brown

One of Defendant's Attorneys

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CONSENT PURSUANT TO ELECTRONIC CASE FILING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, SECTION 11

I, William R. Caroselli, attest that consent in the filing of the *Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) Joint Report of the Parties (Class Action)* has been obtained from each of the other signatories.

Executed on August 27, 2014, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

/s/ William R. Caroselli

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on August 27, 2014, I caused the foregoing to be electronically filed with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to all counsel of record.

/c/	William R	. Caroselli	
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